

REFERENCE TITLE: Williams Gateway airport; reuse zone

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Forty-eighth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2007

## **SJR 1002**

Introduced by  
Senators Verschoor, Gray C (with permission of committee on Rules)

### A JOINT RESOLUTION

RENEWING THE DESIGNATION OF WILLIAMS GATEWAY AIRPORT AS A MILITARY REUSE ZONE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1       Whereas, Williams Air Force Base closed on September 30, 1993, pursuant  
2 to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510)  
3 and the recommendations of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment  
4 Committee; and

5       Whereas, Williams Air Force Base was used for operational and training  
6 purposes for the active uniformed services of the United States; and

7       Whereas, Williams Air Force Base was the largest flying training base  
8 in the free world and, during its fifty-two years of operation, graduated  
9 more than twenty-six thousand student pilots and trained twenty-five to  
10 thirty per cent of the nation's yearly output of United States Air Force  
11 pilots; and

12      Whereas, the closure of Williams Air Force Base resulted in the loss of  
13 more than thirty-eight hundred jobs and \$300,000,000 of economic activity,  
14 and the State of Arizona and local communities, faced with the challenge of  
15 replacing these losses, formed a unique partnership to develop a  
16 comprehensive economic reuse plan for Williams Air Force Base; and

17      Whereas, a primary component of this economic reuse initiative was the  
18 1992 enactment of Arizona's Defense Restructuring and Military Reuse Zone  
19 Programs, a forward thinking legislative framework that designated closed  
20 military bases in Arizona as Military Reuse Zones and that included targeted  
21 economic incentives for aviation and aerospace businesses creating new jobs  
22 and making capital investments within these zones; and

23      Whereas, the Williams Gateway Airport Authority desired to establish a  
24 civil airport on a portion of the lands comprising Williams Air Force Base  
25 and applied to the Air Force for a public benefit transfer of these lands  
26 with improvements on these lands together with certain related personal  
27 property, under 49 United States Code section 47151; and

28      Whereas, the Air Force determined that the property identified in the  
29 Williams Gateway Airport Authority's application was excess and approved and  
30 accepted the application, pursuant to its authority under the Defense Base  
31 Closure and Realignment Act of 1990, to dispose of the real property and  
32 related personal property comprising a portion of Williams Air Force Base;  
33 and

34      Whereas, the Secretary of the Air Force ultimately transferred to the  
35 Williams Gateway Airport Authority title to the premises and property  
36 consisting of certain lands with improvements on those lands, comprising a  
37 portion of Williams Air Force Base, more particularly described in the  
38 quitclaim deed, executed on April 14, 1998 and recorded in Maricopa County on  
39 April 30, 1998; and

40      Whereas, the Williams Gateway Airport was designated a Military Reuse  
41 Zone in 1996 pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) section 41-1531  
42 and Executive Order 96-12, which designation was to terminate in August 2001;  
43 and

1       Whereas, the Williams Gateway Airport designation as a Military Reuse  
2 Zone was renewed on July 23, 2001 pursuant to A.R.S. section 41-1531 and  
3 Executive Order 01-14, which designation was to terminate in July 2006; and

4       Whereas, pursuant to A.R.S. section 41-1531, subsection B, the  
5 Legislature and the Governor by joint resolution may further renew the  
6 Military Reuse Zone designation for an additional ten-year term; and

7       Whereas, the Military Reuse Zone designation at Williams Gateway  
8 Airport has been an important component of the economic redevelopment  
9 strategy that attracted thirty-nine companies and created more than fourteen  
10 hundred jobs in the zone since 1996; and

11     Whereas, the renewal of the Military Reuse Zone designation will  
12 continue to facilitate state and local economic readjustment efforts by  
13 providing opportunities for commercial and industrial development, including  
14 major infrastructure improvements that will spur job creation and accelerate  
15 redevelopment growth.

16 Therefore

17 Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

18     1. That the Members of the Forty-eighty Legislature and the Governor  
19 of the State of Arizona renew as a Military Reuse Zone the Williams Gateway  
20 Airport premises and property consisting of certain lands with improvements  
21 on those lands comprising a portion of Williams Air Force Base, more  
22 particularly described in the quitclaim deed executed on April 14, 1998  
23 between the Secretary of the Air Force, on behalf of the United States of  
24 America, and the Williams Gateway Airport Authority, and recorded in Maricopa  
25 County on April 30, 1998.

26     2. That the renewal of the Williams Gateway Airport premises and  
27 property as a Military Reuse Zone be made retroactive to July 23, 2006.

28     3. That, pursuant to A.R.S. section 41-1531, subsection B, the  
29 termination date for this Military Reuse Zone be set for ten years from July  
30 23, 2006.

31     4. That the Secretary of State transmit copies of this Resolution to  
32 the Williams Gateway Airport Authority.